

**State Commission on Juvenile Justice  
Meeting Minutes**

June 26, 2008, 10:00am – 3:00pm  
4241 Williamsborough Drive, Room 206  
Sacramento, CA 95823

**Commission Members in Attendance**

Bernard Warner  
Penelope Clarke  
Don Meyer  
Sue Cline  
Javier Stauring  
Kurt Kumli  
David Steinhart  
William Arroyo  
Charlene Reid

**Others in Attendance**

Chris Murray  
Eleanor Silva  
Kim Bushard  
Jermica Peters  
Suzie Cohen  
Rachel Rios  
Sharon Garcia  
Madeline Turner  
Steve Kruse  
Stacy  
Doug McKeever  
Marcus Neito  
Amy Seidletz  
Steve Lesch

The meeting was facilitated by Don Meyer, Tri-Chair. Mr. Meyer called the meeting to order, and called roll to establish a quorum.

**Meeting Minutes of May 22, 2008**

The minutes from the May meeting were reviewed. A motion was made to adopt the minutes with the corrections pointed out by the members. Mr. Meyer called for all those in favor of the proposed motion. All members were in favor. The motion was adopted.

**Appointment of Ms. Reid**

Charlene Reid, County Welfare Directors Association (CWDA) has been officially appointed to the Commission. Mr. Meyer welcomed Ms. Reid to the Commission.

## **Office of the Governor, Gang and Youth Violence**

*Paul Seave, Policy Director*

Mr. Seave was invited to the meeting to discuss the focus and direction of the Office of Gang and Youth Violence Policy. The following information was provided in his presentation:

- The mission of the office is to:
  - Find out how state funding is being spent in detail.
  - Ensure state money is being spent in a smart way by using evidence based programs. Educating people at the state and local levels on outcomes, what programs work and which ones do not work.
  - Develop a proposal to address the problem with criminal justice data not being produced in a timely manner so that it is more useful at both the state and local levels.
  - Emphasize the need for cities have a plan of action to handle gang and juvenile violence problems. Cities will need to assess the problem, create an implementation plan, have accountability for implementation of the plan and have community involvement.
- The Governor's Office has issued a letter explaining the function of the Office of Gang and Youth Violence Policy, their request for information, and desire to establish a working group of high level officials to look at what is happening and where corrections and improvements can be made.
- Initial surveys have gone out to the counties in an attempt to get a detailed picture of how the money is being spent at the local level. Follow-up surveys are being sent and will be followed by interviews.
- In some cities the Mayor has assumed the role of being responsible for tackling gang and juvenile violence.
- Working on tying funding to results and accountability which will lead the state into the future with better results than in the past
- Look at a new way of governing ourselves as a state and at the local level not a single agency.

It was recommended to informally coordinate with the Office of Gang and Youth Violence Policy to share information as both entities work toward accomplishing their missions.

## **Assessments.com**

*Sean Hosman, President*

Assessments.com has been used in several states including California to assist in creating the standard for risk/needs assessments and implementing statewide risk/needs tools for counties. Mr. Hosman was invited to present an overview of research and to discuss the benefits of a risk/needs tool in terms of targeting your population. Mr. Hosman presented the following information:

- Assessments.com translates research data into implementation plans and strategies of evidence based programs.
- Meta-analysis - a study of studies
- Criminogenic Needs – dynamic, risk, and predictive – Focus on addressing these needs and the correlation of those factors will reduce recidivism.
- Guiding principles of evidence based practice
- The importance of measuring programs and inter-rater reliability
- Principles of effective intervention

- Principles of program integrity
- Recidivism rates of programs that focus on varying factors
- Properties of effective instruments – 4 generations of risk assessments
- Principles of effective implementation
- Efficacy of implementation

Mr. Hosman was asked if he had the ability to architect a system based on the principles that were discussed that can be used as a blueprint for counties to follow. The members discussed how Assessments.com may be utilized within the Juvenile Justice Master Plan.

### **Juvenile Justice Operational Master Plan**

*Chris Murray, Christopher Murray and Associates*

Chris reviewed a draft of the Goals and Guiding Principles that he prepared based on the members suggestions from the last meeting. Chris welcomed comments from the members. A discussion ensued and further suggestions were made to assist Chris in finalizing the document.

### **State Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention**

*Kim Brushard, Corrections Standards Authority*

Kim Brushard, Field Representative from the Corrections Standards Authority spoke on behalf of the Committee. The Committee is currently undergoing a strategic planning session. Upon completion, a Committee member will resume providing regular updates to the Commission.

### **Youthful Offender Block Grants**

*Suzie Cohen, Christopher Murray and Associates*

*Kim Brushard, Corrections Standards Authority (CSA)*

Suzie and Kim presented the Youthful Offender Block Grant Program Progress as of April 2008. The information for this report were the results of county specific templates distributed to each county by CSA to report progress toward implementing their Juvenile Justice Development Plans.

### **SB81 / AB191 Implementation Update**

*Eleanor Silva, Intake and Court Services*

Eleanor provided the most recent data on the non-707(b) population within DJJ Facilities and on DJJ Parole and their anticipated release dates. She also gave an update on the number of youth that were released from DJJ since September 2007, and the method of release.

### **Commission Budget**

*Eleanor Silva, Intake and Court Services*

*Chris Murray, Christopher Murray and Associates*

Estimated expenses of the consultants and the Commission for Fiscal Year 2007-2008, and 2008-2009, were reviewed. The members also discussed the extension of the commission budget. It was agreed to discuss this issue at the next meeting.

### **Closing Remarks**

The meeting concluded with a discussion regarding the sole vacant position on the Commission, an individual who represents the interests of crime victims, appointed by

the Speaker of the Assembly. The members discussed how they may be able to expedite the process. Several of the members agreed to contact members of the Assembly to inform them of the lack of appointment and provide the names of three victim's advocates per the members' suggestion.

Mr. Warner provided a brief update on the progress of the Receivership Hearings.

All Commission members agreed to hold the next meeting on July 24, 2008, at the Division of Juvenile Justice Headquarters, Room 206, in Sacramento. The facilitator of the next meeting will be Tri-chair, Bernard Warner. Suggested topics for the next meeting include: a discussion about the California Child Welfare Council, a panel to discuss common data elements and data collection and other Information Technology related issues, SB81 /AB191 Implementation update and an update on the State Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

It was suggested that the meeting convene in an alternate location in August to make the meeting more accessible to stakeholders and the public. Members agreed to make recommendations at the meeting in July.